

## FOSSIL RIVER CANYON: *Delicacies in Stone*

by Don Smurthwaite  
Idaho State Office Public Affairs

**M**ore than a million years ago, the climate of what is now central Idaho warmed, the great Ice Age glaciers thawed, and their waters thrashed southward.

The violent torrent, filled with rock and sand, chiseled the basalt and molded the riverbed into a sculptured garden of magnificent rock forms. Chunks of rock settled into depressions and were twirled incessantly by the water, slowly grinding circular holes into the canyon floor and walls.

Today the area is known as Fossil River Canyon, located 17 miles north of Shoshone, Idaho. From the fall to spring, when the streambed is dry, the three-quarter mile long canyon features some of the most unusual formations found on the public lands -- exotic, unearthly and eerie.

"It's a black-and-white photographer's dream," says Joe Aitken, realty specialist in BLM's Shoshone District. "It's an ideal place to take a few shots and then later have fun developing the photos in the darkroom."

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The canyon has a maximum depth of about 25 feet at the most and ranges from a single-file width to 50 or 60 feet. Aitken says it's a hike that requires no special equipment and may be completed in an hour or two, depending somewhat on how much black-and-white film is brought along on the trip.

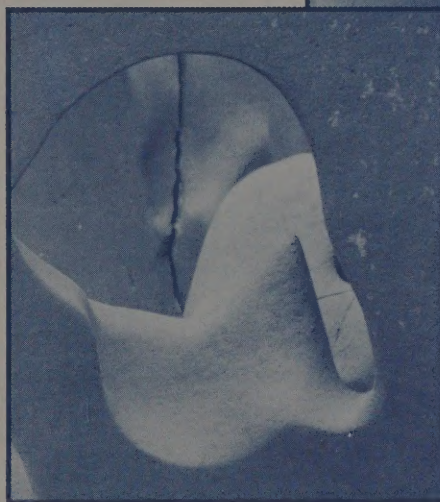
Although just off the main highway to Sun Valley, the canyon is camouflaged from the roadway and remains a mystery except to residents in the vicinity. "The travelers to Sun Valley don't know about it and zip right by," according to Aitken. The Shoshone Dis-

trict is now working with the local chamber of commerce and others to promote the Fossil River Canyon's recreational potential. Aitken credits retired geologist Larry Dee with "rediscovering"

(Cont. on page 3)



"Etchings" in stone from Shoshone, Idaho's natural treasure, Fossil River Canyon.



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# Ten Years Later:

## All Worth the Effort

**I**n December 1987, wildlife biologist Alan Sands received a welcome phone call from Guy Bonniver, the Idaho director for The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Sands was pleased that his efforts with TNC were rewarded. The land exchange for the preservation of a crucial sharptail grouse habitat was now a reality.

The ranch, known as the Hixon Sharptail ACEC, is located near Weiser, Idaho, in the Boise District. 10,000 acres is managed by the BLM, in cooperation with TNC and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDF&G).

The site contains the largest population in a 200-mile radius of the Columbian sharptail grouse, a bird that is a candidate for listing as a threatened species.

Columbian sharptails were once abundant, thriving in varied habitats west of the Continental Divide. Through the years, as their habitats have been reduced, the birds have withdrawn from 90 percent of their original range.

A key part of their habitat is a "dancing ground," where males congregate each spring for showy displays to attract mates. "By 1976, there were no known dancing grounds in western Idaho.

We knew we had a few remaining small populations, but the situation was bleak," says Sands.

Dancing grounds are traditional, and if they're abandoned, it indicates the sharptail population is in trouble, according to Sands.



*Columbian sharptail grouse, on public land near Weiser, Idaho. (Photo courtesy Jeffrey Rich.)*

The birds' plight began to brighten when former area manager Bud Sherrets, hoping to see sage grouse strutting displays early one morning, instead happened upon a group of sharptails performing their dance. Biologists soon located three other sites on the same ranch.

Since virtually nothing was known about the habitat requirements of this race of sharptails, the BLM and IDF&G began a three-year study to learn more about the reclusive species.

In 1980, the ranch went up for sale. TNC was a prospective buyer, but found the asking price too high. Five years later, land prices in the area had plummeted and TNC again became interested. After almost three more years of negotiating, and with the financial assistance of TNC board member George Hixon, the organization finally was able to purchase the ranch in 1987.

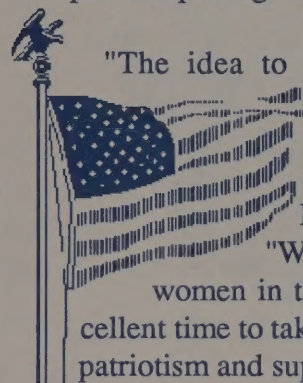
The BLM worked out the final arrangements of a land exchange with TNC over the next two years.

*(Cont. on page 12)*



# BLM Uniform Patches to Honor Americans in Gulf War

**T**o demonstrate pride in country and in public service and to show support for United States' citizens involved in the Persian Gulf hostilities, the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will add to its uniforms a patch depicting the United States flag.



"The idea to add a flag to our uniforms came from our field offices some time ago," according to BLM Director Cy Jamison.

"With our fighting men and women in the Gulf, this is an excellent time to take this step to show our patriotism and support."



*BLM Director Cy Jamison displays the patch with BLMers Carmen Donelson and Gregory Wilson.*

Effective immediately, all new Class B&C BLM uniform shirts, sweaters, coveralls, twill jackets, and volunteer vests will include a 2 x 3-1/2 inch flag patch. The BLM has also ordered 25,000 additional flag patches for employees to sew on uniform components they now wear.

For volunteers working on the public lands and for BLM law enforcement officers, the patch will be worn on the right breast of the garment. For all other BLM employees, the patch will be worn on the right sleeve, two inches below the shoulder seam. □

## *Delicacies in Stone* (cont. from cover)

the area and recognizing it as one of BLM's hidden recreational treasures.

Downstream, the canyon has some sizable drop-offs from the most spectacular formations, and its sudden increases in high water levels can be dangerous warns Aitken. Nevertheless, the most

scenic area is safe for even young children to trek with ease.

"You'll see a variety of different features. There's a heart-shaped rock and a formation resembling a mama and baby bear," Aitken says. "It's truly a fascinating and breathtaking hike." □





*Visitors enjoy a variety of outdoor recreation activities at BLM's concession resorts along the lower Colorado River Parker Strip Recreation Area.*



## CONCESSIONAIRES ENRICH YUMA DISTRICT'S RECREATION PROGRAM

**T**hey come from Maine and Michigan, New York and California, Europe and Canada, and all points in between. They come in the summer and winter, and they come by the thousands — young and old — to enjoy the sun and water along the shores of the lower Colorado River.

With over 8 million visitor-use days a year, the Yuma District has been able to meet the public's demand for recreation on public lands along the lower Colorado River by establishing a solid partnership with private sector businesses. These cooperative management agreements have resulted in the growth of BLM's leading concession program.

"The concessionaires do all the things we couldn't do," said Mike Wilson, BLM concession specialist. "Our goal is to offer a wide range of high quality recreational opportunities. The BLM operates long-term visitor areas, overnight and day-use areas, while the private sector provides more developed services."

Conforming to standards set by the BLM, concessionaires present a myriad of recreational resort facilities: full hookup RV sites, luxury park model homes, boat rental and repair services, swimming pools, tennis courts, community buildings, shops, and golf courses.

*(Cont. on page 8)*



# TOTAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

by Greg Albright  
Montana State Office

**M**aking its debut on the BLM's 1991 acronym list is TQM. TQM is short for Total Quality Management.

Contrary to what you may be thinking, the "management" in TQM is not the supervisory portion of the workforce. Rather, it refers to all aspects of the way we conduct our business.

TQM, neither a program nor a finite project, is based on the ideas of several management gurus. Dr. W. Edwards Deming is the most renowned in the field, particularly for his efforts with Japanese businesses, which are dominant in quality throughout the

Japanese industry. The council identifies areas where BLM Montana will concentrate its initial efforts throughout its three states.



One of the priority goals for the first year of the pilot effort is encouraging the entire Montana/Dakota organization to utilize the concepts so that TQM becomes an integral part of the way BLMers approach their work and accomplish their day-to-day business. A cross-sectional group of employees is receiving formal training this year and, they, in turn,

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*TQM's purpose is to improve systems by advocating teamwork. TQM assumes we all do our best, but our best may be stifled by the imposition of an outmoded system or process. TQM strives to educate employees to analyze the root causes of problems and to craft positive solutions.*

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world. TQM is a customer-focused process for continual improvement. For us, that means the value of each thing we do is measured against customers' needs. Moreover, our definition of "customer" is not limited to those outside the organization — it includes coworkers as well. Another definition is doing a job the right way, on time, every time. Both definitions encompass lofty goals which will take time to achieve.

As the pilot state for the Bureau, BLM's Montana State Office has established a quality council modeled after the quality control circles used in

will train others, and so on. Eventually, every employee will be thinking, working and cooperating to improve and achieve quality.

It's important to understand that TQM does not seek to improve people. TQM changes the attitude and approach of supervisors from overseeing mere work to leading groups of people committed to doing a quality job.

The budget process is one concrete area that is receiving TQM treatment in Montana and the Dakotas. As part of their pilot efforts, they are

(Cont. on page 8)



## Washington Office

### New BLM Employees

Lois Fein, Equal Employ. Spec., Office of EEO  
Linda Batts, Equal Employ. Spec., Office of EEO  
Joan Sweetland, Public Affairs Spec., Div. of Public Affairs  
Michelle Paladino, Writer-Editor, Div. of Public Affairs  
Suzanne Stevenson, Writer-Editor, Div. of Public Affairs

### Reassignments/Promotions

Mable Campbell, Statistical Asst., Div. of Minerals Pol. Analysis & Econ. Evl.  
Paul Parthun, Pet. Engr. Tech., Div. of Fl. Minerals Lease & Reser. Mgmt.  
Stephanie Hargrove, Mining Law Spec., Div. of Mining Law. & Salable Minerals, to Program Analyst, Div. of Budget  
Kurtis Ballantyne, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., SC, to Wildlife Biol., Div. of Wildlife & Fisheries  
David Beaver, Realty Spec., Div. of Lands & Realty  
Joe Lara, Supvy. Pet. Engr., New Mexico SO, to Physical Scientist, Div. of Fl. Mineral Leasing  
Rory Raschen, Program Eval. Spec., Div. of Program Eval., to Supvy. Mineral Leasing Spec., Div. of Mineral Leasing  
John Gebhard, Fire Mgmt. Spec., SC, to Natural Res. Spec., Div. of Fire & Aviation Mgmt.  
Rajendra Giri, Mineral Leasing Spec. to Mining Engr., Div. of Solid Mineral Leasing  
Sandra Andolsun, Printing Spec., Div. of Admin. Services  
Billy Templeton, Supv. Range Con., Div. of Rangeland Res., to SD, Nevada SO  
Bruce Dawson, Range Con., Div. of Rangeland Res., to Program Analyst, Div. of Budget

### Other Separations

Rose Marie Cummins, Supvy. Mgmt. Analyst, Div. of Info. Res. Mgmt.  
Olivia Short, Realty Spec., Alaska Program Staff

## Alaska

### Reassignments/Promotions

Donna Doney, Land Law Exam., SO  
Lynda Ehrhart, Land Law Exam., SO  
Patricia Holm, Land Law Exam., SO  
Jim Kimball, Forestry Tech., Fire Service  
Sandra Larson, Personnel Staffing Spec. to Supvy. Personnel Staffing Spec., SO  
Paula McHale, Land Law Exam., SO  
Jeffrey Nelson, Land Law Exam., SO  
Willard Olson, Land Surv., SO  
Ron Walter, Land Surv., SO  
Janice Yankus, Land Law Exam., SO

Michael W. Beale, Land Surv., SO  
Susan Britt, Land Law Exam. to Land Info. Spec., SO  
Allyson Johnson, Land Law Exam., SO  
Jerry Lewis, Land Surv., SO  
Lynette Nakazawa, Land Use Planner, Ofc. of Mgmt. Plan/Budget, to Supvy. Gen Biol., Div. of Cadastral Surv.  
Steven Schmitt, Land Surv., SO  
Douglas Talbot, Land Surv., SO  
Ronald Teseneer, Geol., SO  
Dennis Walworth, Supvy. Cartographer Tech., SO  
Francis Reed, Land Law Exam., SO  
Jeff Shryer, Wildlife Biol., Glennallen DO, to Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Steese-White Mountains DO

### Other Separations

Linda Ricketts, Computer Spec., Div. of Info. Res. Mgmt.  
Larry Woodward, Electronic Mechanic, Fire Service

### Retirements

James Jelley, Land Surv., Div. of Cadastral Surv.  
Bobby Karr, Air Ops. Spec., Fire Service

Albert McCoy, Electronic Mechanic, Fire Service  
Billy Butts, Supvy. Natural Res. Spec., Steese-White Mountains DO  
Robert Boyce, Supvy. Civil Engr., Fairbanks Support Center  
Tula Belton, Budget Analyst, Fairbanks Support Center  
William Athas, Support Services Supv., Div. of Support Services  
Viola McCollum, Land Law Exam., Div. of Conveyance Mgmt.

## Arizona

### New BLM Employees

Matthew Shumaker, Geol., Phx. Training Ctr.

### Reassignments/Promotions

Ted Bingham, Ops. Program Mgr., WO, to DSD, Div. of Ops., SO  
Rob Currier, Admin. Officer, Wyoming SO, to Div. of Admin., SO  
Richard Colvin, Outdoor Rec. Planner, Wyoming SO to Kingman RA

### Retirements

Robert Moody, Construction Rep., Yuma DO  
Fred Potter, Geol., Phx. DO

## Eastern States

### Retirements

Don Mitchell, Branch Chief, Renewable Res.  
Mildred Runkle, Planning Asst.

## California

### Reassignments/Promotions

Mark Chandler, BLM Ranger, Palm Springs So. RA  
Donna Perez, Forestry Tech., Bakersfield DO  
Thomas Murrellwright, Geol., Folsom RA  
David Mattern, Hydrol., Susanville DO  
Rosalinda Estrada, Realty Spec., Caliente RA  
Tina Gromo, Public Affairs Spec., SO

### Retirements

Hugo Riecken, Assoc. DM, Desert DO  
Herman Lyttge, Land Law Exam., SO  
Harold Stoops, Supvy. Pet. Engr., Bakersfield DO  
Arden Johnson, Public Affairs Spec., SO  
Leslie Rice, Community Planner, Desert DO

### Other Separations

Robert Zickwolf, Supvy. Land Surv., SO  
Candace Ojala, Realty Spec., Desert DO

## Idaho

### Reassignments/Promotions

Elena Shaw, Range Con., Shoshone DO to Jarbidge RA  
Charles Dodson, Cartographer, SC to Div. of Ops.  
Jeff Cundig, Mining Engr., Moab, UT, to Idaho Falls DO  
Ervin Cowley, Natural Res. Spec. to Range Con., Div. of Renewable Res.  
Lyle Lewis, Hydrol., Salmon DO, to Fishery Biol., Shoshone DO  
Gary Madenford, Supvy. Ops. Spec., Shoshone DO, to Natural Res. Spec., Div. of Renewable Res.

### Retirements

John Davis, Chief, Div. of Ops.  
Lawrence Hanlon, Realty Spec., Div. of Ops.  
Richard Watts, Engr. Equip. Ops. Leader, Boise DO  
Frederick Anderson, Geol., Boise DO  
Floyd Bethke, Supvy. Fire Mgmt. Spec., Burley DO  
Augustus Vitolins, Forester, Coeur d'Alene DO  
Lawrence Leahy, Jr., Realty Spec., Coeur d'Alene DO  
Edward Fisk, Supvy. Planning/Environ. Spec., Div. of Renewable Res.  
Lawrence Dee, Geol., Shoshone DO  
Jesse Beraim, Equal Employ. Mgr., Office of the SD

## Montana

### New BLM Employees

George Peternel, Outdoor Rec. Planner, Div. of Lands & Renewable Res.



**Reassignments/Promotions**

**Stephen Black**, Civil Engr. Tech., Butte DO to Headwaters RA  
**Mary Clark**, Contract Spec., Miles City DO  
**Edward Hastings**, Program Analyst to Safety & Occ. Health Mgr., Div. of Admin.  
**G. J. Hirschenberger**, Supvy. Range Con., Headwaters RA to Butte DO  
**Kathie Jewell**, Computer Spec. to Supvy. Computer Spec., Div. of Admin.  
**Donald Nelson**, Area Mgr., Big Dry RA, to Supvy. Land Use Spec., Miles City DO  
**Warren Schwabel**, Range Con., Butte DO, to Supvy. Range Con., Headwaters RA  
**Norma Smith**, Computer Spec. to Supvy. Computer Spec., Div. of Admin.  
**David Swogger**, Supvy. Land Use Spec., Miles City DO, to Area Mgr., Big Dry RA  
**Asko Virtanen**, Supvy. Computer Spec. to Computer Spec., Div. of Admin.

**Retirements**

**Edmund Giebel**, Minerals Res. Spec., Div. of Mineral Res.  
**James Graham**, Supvy. Pet. Engr. Tech., Miles City DO

**Other Separations**

**Craig Frichtl**, Supvy. Land Surv., Div. of Ops.  
**John Hodnik**, Regional Econ., Div. of Lands & Renewable Res.  
**Robert Lund**, Outdoor Rec. Planner, Div. of Lands & Renewable Res.  
**Verlin Smith**, Supvy. Land Use Spec., Dillon RA

**Nevada****Reassignments/Promotions**

**Bill Baker**, Supvy. Range Con., Elko RA, to Area Mgr., Wells RA  
**Alfred Coulloudon**, Range Con., Paradise-Denio RA, to Supvy. Range Con., Schell RA

**Retirements**

**Melvin Bunch**, DSD Admin., SO  
**Jackie Howell**, Civil Engr. Tech., Las Vegas DO  
**James Johnson**, Civil Engr., SO  
**John Mabe**, Range Con., Lahonton RA  
**Frederick Wolf**, ASD, SO  
**Ward Wyman**, Range Tech., Carson City DO

**Other Separations**

**James Villegas**, Wildlife Biol., Stateline RA

**Oregon****Reassignments/Promotions**

**Marc Thomas**, Supvy. Land Surv., SO  
**Edward Ware**, Forestry Tech., Roseburg DO  
**Terrence Nickerson**, Supvy. Land Surv., Medford DO

**David Young**, Fishery Biol., Utah SO to Prineville DO  
**Stephen Langenstein**, Fishery Biol., Idaho SO, to Wildlife Biol., Coos Bay DO  
**Cathi Wilbanks**, Outdoor Rec. Planner, California SO to Vale DO  
**James White**, Forester, Coos Bay DO  
**Alfred Borchert**, Forester (Seed Orchard Mgr.), Eugene DO  
**Glenn Miller**, Forester (Asst. Seed Orchard Mgr.), Eugene DO  
**Thomas Forre**, Range Con. (Rangeland Mgmt. Spec./Ecologist), Vale DO  
**Bret Christensen**, Wildlife Biol., Coos Bay DO  
**Shane Durant**, Forester, Coos Bay DO  
**Elaine Zielinski**, Supvy. Environ. Spec., SO

**Retirements**

**Paul Vetterick**, ASD  
**Marvin Olson**, Forestry Tech.  
**John Norlin**, Supvy. Forester  
**Neil Saunders**, Civil Engr.  
**Kenneth Roegner**, Natural Res. Spec.  
**Arthur Oakley**, Fishery Biol.  
**Leonard W. Murphy**, Land Surv.  
**Robert Goodrich**, Supvy. Forester  
**Romalee Sherwood**, Editorial Asst.  
**James Soulia**, Forester  
**George Huggins**, General Supply Spec.

**Other Separations**

**Donald Pearson**, Mgmt. Analyst, SO, to U.S. Forest Service  
**Gary Lokken**, Supvy. Telecommun. Spec., SO, to U.S. Forest Service

**Utah****Reassignments/Promotions**

**David Young**, Fishery Biol., Prineville DO to Richfield DO  
**Kent Walter**, Supvy. Land Surv. to Land Surv., Div. of Ops.  
**Donald Banks**, Public Affairs Spec., External Affairs  
**Diane Saint-Thomas**, Secretary (Stenography), SD's Office

**Retirements**

**Larry Oldroyd**, Assoc. DM., Richfield DO  
**Sheridan Hansen**, Area Mgr., Beaver River RA  
**Odell Frandsen**, DSD, Res., SO  
**Fred Dunnell**, Range Con., Beaver River RA  
**Edwin Baack**, Civil Engr., Div. of Ops.

**Other Separations**

**LaMar Lindsay**, Archaeologist, Richfield DO

**Wyoming****New BLM Employees**

**Timothy Nowak**, Archeologist, Rawlins DO

**Reassignments/Promotions**

**Rick Amidon**, Maintenance Mechanic, Rock Springs DO, to Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Green River RA  
**Morris Bullard**, Special Agent-in-Charge, SO, to Criminal Invest., El Paso, TX  
**Robert Currier**, Admin. Officer, SO, to Arizona SO  
**Peggy Dabb**, Contract Spec., Rock Springs DO, to Supvy. Procure. Analyst, New Mexico SO  
**Kimberly Fritz**, Range Con., Rock Springs DO, to Bureau of Rec., Salt Lake City  
**Joseph Hayashi**, Personnel Staffing/Class. Spec., SO, to Employee Develop. Spec., SC  
**Donald Roberts**, Class. Spec., SC, to Personnel Staffing/Class. Spec., SO  
**Carole Spencer**, Mining Engr., Casper DO to Tulsa DO  
**Duane Spencer**, Pet. Engr., Rawlins DO, to Supvy. Pet. Engr., Farmington RA

**Retirements**

**Richard Eversull**, Telecommun. Mgr., SO

**Other Separations**

**Jerry Barrett**, Supvy. Land Surv.  
**Victor Wire**, Civil Engr. Tech., Rock Springs DO

**Service Center****New BLM Employees**

**Mark Whitesell**, Position Class. Spec., Div. of Personnel

**Reassignments/Promotions**

**Suzanne Jamiel**, Personnel Staffing Spec., Div. of Personnel  
**Constance Slusser**, Photographer, Div. of Tech. Svcs.

**Retirements**

**Leland Anderson**, Mgmt. Analyst, Div. of Data Mgmt.  
**William Griffith**, Supvy. Mgmt. Analyst, Ofc. of SC Director  
**Bernice Duke**, Property Mgmt. Spec., Div. of Admin. Services  
**Cathryn Davis**, Secretary, Ofc. of SC Director

**Other Separations**

**Eric Strand**, Supvy. Computer Systems Analyst, Div. of Modernization

**Boise Interagency Fire Center****Reassignments/Promotions**

**Brian Dean**, Aviation Mgmt. Spec., BIFC to WO  
**Andrea Olson**, Fire Info. Spec., BIFC to F&W Serv.

*Tracking Personnel* is compiled from information submitted by State Office Personnel Branches to the Service Center in Denver by the 15th of every other month. If an office is not listed here, the submission was not received in the Service Center by the deadline. Submissions should be made through the electronic mail system to YA530.





## CONCESSIONAIRES ENRICH RECREATION PROGRAM *(Cont. from page 4)*

The concessions stretch from Lake Havasu south along the BLM's Parker Strip Recreation Area. Black Meadow Landing and Havasu Springs' resorts offer marinas, restaurants, and lodging. Sunshine, Big Bend, and Echo Lodge offer a relaxed atmosphere and a full array of services. Emerald Cove, River Land, Sportsman and Windmill furnish mobile home sites and launch ramps, and Rio del Colorado, with its towering palms, has its own special appeal.

"In this spectrum, there's a niche for every member of the public who wants to come to the shores of the river," said Wilson. "Not only are we meeting the demands of the public, but we are also securing full, fair value for the lands used, cost recovery, and even a few contributions."

"We're proud of our concession program," said Yuma District Manager Herman Kast. "We like to think we're providing the best recreation programs possible through effective resource management planning — and our concessionaires, who work in close partnership with us, have helped us make this possible." □

## T Q M

*(Cont. from page 5)*

developing a budget system which it is hoped will eventually lead to a simplified Bureauwide budget process. In most instances, instead of doling out funds in specific accounts (subactivities) to each budget unit, allocations are merely total dollar limits. (In simple terms, each budget unit receives its marching orders and a single pot of money to carry out those orders.) This eliminates constant worry about budgets. Concentration is focused on accomplishments.

Other budget goals include documenting actual costs with the true mix of skills required to produce a given piece of work, and streamlining extensive details while simultaneously meeting annual work plan priorities and Congressional intent.

As the pilot proceeds, more and more quality innovations can be expected. Like the budget, some innovations may be jointly developed. Others may grow from a single individual's ideas for either building a better mouse trap, or eliminating part or all of a process that adds no value to our work products. One of the most valuable benefits of the TQM way of life will be higher employee satisfaction and quality work products.

Ultimately, Montana/Dakotas BLM hopes that in its neck of the woods the generic specification "close enough for government work" will become synonymous with its own acronym - HLE - highest levels of expectation. □



## BLM Around the Country



### Fishing has no Boundaries

**T**he Bureau of Land Management, along with the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Reclamation, and the Forest Service have formed a partnership with Amerifish Corporation in a program called "FISHING HAS NO BOUNDARIES." On January 14, 1991, the partners signed a Memorandum of Understanding officially pledging to promote fishing opportunities for disabled individuals and provide educational materials on recreational fishing and environmental awareness on the nearly 630 million acres of public lands managed by the four Federal agencies.

Amerifish Corporation will use its resources to cooperate with the Federal agencies in managing public land and water resources to provide better fishing and recreational access for disabled persons. Because of its history and expertise in serving the needs of the handicapped, Amerifish will also assist the agencies in determining the recreational needs of

the disabled, and will disseminate informational and educational materials for disabled persons oriented toward conservation of natural resources.

"FISHING HAS NO BOUNDARIES," now in its fifth year, provides disabled anglers the opportunity to explore, gain self-confidence and conquer fishing in the great outdoors. This program coincides with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Law, which will open many rewarding opportunities for Americans with disabilities. □



*Robert Cammack, President, FISHING HAS NO BOUNDARIES, joins Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan, Jr., BLM Director Cy Jamison, Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Dennis Underwood, Fish and Wildlife Director John Turner, Forest Service Associate Chief George Leonard, and the National Park Service Deputy Director Herbert Cables, Jr., at the signing ceremony for the Memorandum of Understanding.*



### WILL THAT BE CASH OR CHARGE?

**T**he Bureau of Land Management has entered into the age of plastic. Credit cards, that is! Visa or Master Card are now accepted for paying oil and gas sale bids, bonuses, over-the-counter offers, replenishing copy work accounts, ordering patents, plats, maps, submitting filing fees for record title assignments or mining claim location certificates, securing assessments, and transferring interest.

*(Cont. on page 12)*



## BLM Around the Country

### CALIFORNIA'S WELLNESS PROGRAM: WORTH ALL THE EFFORT!!

**W**e asked Steve Addington of BLM's Hollister Resource Area office: "What do you think of BLM's new 'wellness program?'" "It's exhausting and a little painful," he admitted, but emphasized that his overall health is better and his efficiency on the job has increased since his participation began.

BLM-California employees are encouraged to join the program. The goals of wellness activities in the workplace are to improve employee physical fitness and health, and to sustain health and fitness of employees who are already healthy and fit. To participate in the program, an employee must submit a health and fitness plan to his or her immediate supervisor that includes both a goal and a specific outline of activities that will be followed to attain that goal. Recommended activities include running, cycling, walking, swimming, skiing, rope skipping, racquetball, and aerobic dance. Administrative leave for physical activities may be granted up to 1-1/2 hours a week, but must be matched by the employee's personal time.

Steve's program goals are perhaps a bit more enthusiastic than those of some employees. He recently completed the Big Sur International Marathon, a 26-mile race along rugged and hilly Highway 1, stretching from Big Sur to Carmel.

The race was the culmination of five months of rigorous training that became a reality through BLM's wellness program. Steve developed an overall wellness plan for himself that included jogging three afternoons a week.



*Steve Addington of BLM's Hollister Resource Area participating in BLM's wellness program with his regime of tri-weekly jogs along Monterey's Big Sur coastline.*

Just after completing this event, he said it would be his last marathon. Rumor has that Steve (43) has decided to compete in Southern Monterey County's Wild Flower Triathlon in early May. Steve will be competing in swimming, bicycling and running.

"With the added time and incentive of the program, I was able to accomplish a goal I've had since I first moved to California — to run in the Big Sur Marathon. When I first entered the wellness program, I hadn't intended to run the marathon, but

*(Cont. on page 12 )*



# 'Rusty Belle' Applauded

by Jeanette Davis  
Yuma District Public Affairs

At a recent gathering of over eighty Yuma Resource Area volunteers, Yuma District Manager Herman Kast presented Ilabelle "Rusty Belle" Bobbitt with the "Volunteers for the Public Lands" national award for her outstanding contributions to visitor service and recreation resource management on the Nation's public lands.

"Rusty Belle has given generously of her time, skills, and warmth in serving as a BLM communications volunteer at the Imperial Dam Long-Term Visitor Area and Squaw Lake Recreation Area," said Kast. "She's been an important part of our BLM family for over nine years."

Using citizens band (CB) radio and CB jargon, Rusty Belle, aided by her husband, Howard, takes roll call twice daily of the many visitors participating in BLM's Imperial Dam Long-Term Visitor Area (LTVA). For a nominal fee of \$25 for the season from September 15th through April 15th, BLM provides long-term campers unstructured camping in Yuma's remote open desert. "GI Joe, Walkie-Talkie, Slow Poke, and Sweet Pea — Toy Boy, Lady Lizard, Powerhouse and Peddle-Pusher," said Rusty Belle, demonstrating her roll call system. "The list goes on and on," she said. "If someone doesn't answer during roll call, we find out why, and we ask others to check on their neighbors who aren't on the CB network."

"We're there if they need us," said Rusty Belle. "Meeting and helping visitors is rewarding and great fun," she com-

mented, referring to the thousands of visitors who spend winter in the area, and summer visitors who enjoy recreation on the river.

Over the years, Rusty Belle has been at the center of many emergency situations and has earned the respect of professional organizations near and far for her prompt and professional skill in responding to those in need of assistance.

In addition to responding to medical emergencies, Rusty Belle has provided invaluable communications support to BLM firefighters who frequently battle raging wildfires along the lower Colorado River in the Imperial LTVA area.

"Rusty Belle always does a great job in communications," said Yuma District Fire Control Officer Gene Ottonello. "She stays calm, she's clear and she concisely reports what's happening, which is exactly what we need in a fire situation."

"During the Memorial Day fire in 1989 and one of our busiest holiday weekends in the District, Rusty Belle was responsible for turning a potentially disastrous and dangerous situation into an orderly and safe evacuation of hundreds of holiday visitors."

Serving an area with visitors camping on public lands in the vast open desert, far from the nearest utility services, Rusty Belle said, "We do the best we can to get the help we need. Then we let the professionals decide what needs to be done." □



*Yuma District Manager Herman Kast presents Rusty Belle with the national award, "Volunteers for the Public Lands."*




**[ CONT. FROM PAGE 9 ]**

According to Dave Holland, chief of BLM's Finance Division in Washington, D.C., credit card service affords the public a convenient and widely popular method of payment — without interest for the first thirty days. "It's a fairly simple system for us to administer and I think the public appreciates the flexibility it provides," he said.

State offices currently offering this service include: Wyoming, Idaho, New Mexico, Utah, Eastern States and the Service Center in Denver. Additional BLM offices are expected to offer the credit card service this year. The credit card collection system was successfully pilot tested in New Mexico and Utah in 1988. To date, more than 1,202 credit card transactions have been made totaling \$159,000. □

## California's Wellness Program

*(Cont. from page 10)*

the jogging went so well, I eventually set my goals higher and soon found myself running nearly 40 miles a week."

Besides the cardiovascular improvement from jogging, Steve's goals included reduced weight, stress and cholesterol, increased strength, and reformed dietary habits. In addition to accomplishing his long-term goal of running the Big Sur, Steve lost 20 pounds and achieved a significant drop in his cholesterol count. □

## Ten Years Later

*(Cont. from page 2)*

The bulk of the ranch came into public ownership last November, almost 15 years after the original dancing ground was discovered.

"It took a real commitment from many interested parties to make it happen," says Sands. "I've been extremely fortunate to have management support at all levels for the exchange." The exchange may help to prevent the Columbian sharptail grouse from being listed, he adds.

The BLM manages land adjacent to the Hixon ACEC. The new acquisition, "... gives us the flexibility to influence acceptable grazing management on 20,000 to 30,000 acres for everyone involved," Sands says. "That's a really neat aspect to all this."

Fifteen years after he first heard of the area, and more than ten years after the possibility of acquiring the site looked possible, Sands doesn't hesitate to say that it was all worthwhile. At the same time, he also recognizes that the effort to help sharp-tail populations rebound isn't finished.

"It's taken a lot of time and work so far ... and it's not done yet," he says. □

### Inside Track

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